

Amendments to the Claims

1. (previously presented) A method comprising:

- (a) engaging an end note bounding a stack of notes in an automated banking machine with a rotatable picking member, wherein the picking member is rotatable about a first axis, and wherein the picking member includes a middle disk portion and a first outboard disk portion disposed on a first axial side of the middle disk portion, and a second outboard disk portion disposed on a second axial side of the middle disk portion opposed of the first axial side;
- (b) rotating the picking member about the first axis in a first rotational direction to a first rotational position, wherein in the first rotational position the end note is engaged with a middle disk high friction arcuate segment in supporting connection with the middle disk portion, and a stripping member in opposed biased relation with the middle disk high friction arcuate segment, wherein the middle disk high friction arcuate segment and the stripping member apply opposing forces to the end note in a stripping area, and wherein in the first rotational position the end note is further engaged with a middle disk low friction arcuate projecting portion in supporting connection with the middle disk portion and

extending radially outward relative to the first axis beyond the middle disk high friction arcuate segment, and wherein in the first rotational position the middle disk low friction arcuate projecting portion engages the end note in a support area axially disposed on the middle disk portion of the stripping area, and wherein in the first rotational position of the picking member the end note is in engagement with a first outboard disk low friction portion in supporting connection with the first outboard disk portion and a second outboard disk low friction portion in supporting connection with the second outboard disk portion;

- (c) rotating the picking member in the first rotational direction from the first rotational position to a second rotational position, wherein in the second rotational position the end note is engaged with the middle disk high friction arcuate segment and the stripping member, and wherein in the second rotational position the low friction arcuate projecting portion does not extend radially outward beyond the middle disk high friction arcuate segment when in engagement with the end note in the support area, and wherein in the second rotational position the end note is in engagement with a first outboard disk high friction segment in supporting connection with the first outboard disk portion and a second outboard disk high friction segment in supporting connection with the second outboard disk portion;

(d) rotating the picking member in the first rotational direction from the second rotational position, wherein the end note moves relative to other notes in the stack in engagement with the middle disk high friction arcuate segment, the first outboard disk high friction segment, the second outboard disk high friction segment and in intermediate relation of the middle disk high friction arcuate segment and the stripping member, whereby the end note is generally separated from the stack.

2. (original) The method according to claim 1 and further comprising:

(e) after the end note moves into intermediate relation of the middle disk portion and stripping member, engaging the end note with at least one carry away member, and moving the end note in engagement with the at least one carry away member.

3. (original) The method according to claim 2 wherein the at least one carry away member is in engagement with the picking member, wherein in (e) the at least one carry away member rotates responsive to rotation of the picking member.

4. (original) The method according to claim 3 wherein the at least one carry away member is in opposed generally abutting relation with at least one of the middle disk portion, first outboard disk portion, and second outboard disk portion, and wherein in (e) the end note moves in intermediate relation between the at least one carry away member and the at least one middle disk portion, first outboard disk portion and second outboard disk portion.

5. (original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the at least one carry away member is in opposed abutting relation with the middle disk portion, and wherein in (e) the end note moves in intermediate relation of the middle disk portion and the at least one carry away member.

6. (original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the at least one middle disk portion, first outboard disk portion and second outboard disk portion has at least one resilient drive arcuate segment supported thereon, wherein in (e) the end note moves in intermediate relation of the at least one carry away member and the at least one drive arcuate segment.

7. (original) The method according to claim 6 and further comprising:

(f) moving the at least one carry away member through engagement with the at least one drive arcuate segment at a time when the end note does not extend in intermediate relation between the carry away member and drive arcuate segment.

8. (original) The method according to claim 7 wherein the at least one drive arcuate segment extends a full circumference of the at least one middle disk portion, first outboard disk portion and second outboard disk portion, and wherein in (e) the end note is engaged in intermediate relation of a first portion of the at least one drive arcuate segment, and wherein in (f) the carry away member is engaged with a second portion of the at least one drive arcuate segment.

9. (original) The method according to claim 8 wherein the first portion of the at least one drive arcuate segment with which the note is engaged in (e), is integral with the middle disk high friction arcuate segment.

10. (original) The method according to claim 9 wherein the at least one drive arcuate segment comprises a continuous segment extending about the middle disk portion, wherein the at least one carry away member is disposed in a first rotational position relative to the stripping member, and wherein in (e) the end note moves in intermediate relation between the middle disk portion and the carry away member.

11. (original) The method according to claim 10 wherein at least one of the first outboard disk portion and second outboard disk portion comprises at least one low friction arcuate segment angularly disposed relative to the first outboard disk high friction segment and second outboard disk high friction segment, and prior to (a) further comprising:

(g) engaging the end note with the at least one low friction arcuate segment.

12. (original) The method according to claim 11 wherein the first outboard disk portion comprises a continuous resilient first band extending circumferentially thereon, and wherein the continuous resilient first band includes the first outboard disk high friction segment, and wherein the first outboard disk portion includes at least one first flange portion extending transversely of the first band and radially outward beyond the first resilient band, and wherein in (g) the end note is engaged with the at least one first flange portion.

13. (canceled)

14. (original) The method according to claim 12 wherein the second outboard disk portion comprises a continuous resilient second band extending circumferentially thereon, wherein the continuous resilient second band includes the second outboard disk high friction segment, and wherein the second outboard disk portion includes at least one second flange portion extending transversely of the second band, and wherein in (g) the end note is engaged with the second flange portion.

15. (currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 13 and further A method comprising:~~

(a) rotating a picking member disk about an axis to engage a currency note at a transverse outer surface portion of the disk during picking of the currency note from a stack of currency notes in an automated teller machine (ATM) having a

currency note dispenser, wherein a transverse segment of the currency note is simultaneously engaged with both a low friction segment and a high friction segment of the surface portion, wherein the low friction segment is positioned axially adjacent to the high friction segment, and wherein the low friction segment extends outward further than the high friction segment in a direction radial to the axis;

(b) (c) subsequent to step (a) and prior to step (b), rotating the picking member disk to disengage the currency note from the low friction segment yet maintain engagement with the high friction segment; and

(c) subsequent to step (b), rotating the picking member disk to disengage the currency note from the outer surface portion.

16. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 and prior to (b) further comprising:

receiving from a user at least one input through at least one input device of the automated banking machine, the at least one input corresponding to a request for cash;

subsequent to (d), dispensing the end note from the automated banking machine to the user.

17-24. (canceled)

25. (previously presented) A method comprising:

- (a) rotating a picking member disk a first rotational distance about an axis in an automated teller machine (ATM), wherein over the first rotational distance both a circumferentially extending arcuate low friction surface portion and an axially adjacent circumferentially extending high friction surface portion of the disk simultaneously engage a leading edge area of a currency note, wherein relative to the axis the low friction surface portion is radially disposed outwardly from the high friction surface portion;
- (b) subsequent to step (a), rotating the disk a second rotational distance, wherein over the second rotational distance the high friction surface portion engages the currency note while the low friction surface portion is disengaged from the currency note; and
- (c) subsequent to step (b), rotating the disk a third rotational distance, wherein over the third rotational distance neither the low friction surface portion nor the high friction surface portion engage the currency note.

26-27. (canceled)